

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
AMERICAN EMBASSY
LONDON, W. 1.

% Grosvenor Square

13 April 1950

Col. L. K. White, Chief
Foreign Broadcast Information Division
2430 E Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Colonel White:

Attached are eight copies of the Record of Proceedings of the Joint BBC-FBIS Standardization Committee.

It will be noted that BBC has agreed to adopt our definitions as laid down in the Field Manual for all types of copy except "expanded summary". In discussion Fred and I found the "expanded summary" difficult to defend. We were forced to agree that the term implies that you start with a summary and then expand it which BBC feels is open to dangerous practices. Furthermore, BBC feels, and we agree, that "summary" and "summary with quotations" can fully cover the specialized meaning of "expanded summary".

With reference to Paragraph 6, the identification of certain monitors' work in Cyprus was instituted some time ago and has now been practically discontinued. BBC may bring this up again since there are still one or two persons whom they consider unreliable.

With reference to Paragraphs 8 and 9, we are endeavoring here to sell BBC on the Logographs as standardized and distributed by you. I will keep you advised on developments.

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

Chief, London Bureau

Enclosure

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RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE JOINT B.B.C.-F.B.I.S.
STANDARDISATION COMMITTEE.

Reference:- Record of the third meeting of the F.B.I.S.-B.B.C. Monitoring Services Co-ordination Committee, Paragraphs 1 and 8.

6th April 1950

Definitions

F.B.I.S. represented that the instructions for the identification of material as laid down by the B.B.C. were not carried out in all cases, nor did they correspond in every respect with the instructions observed by F.B.I.S.

2. It was agreed that the definitions laid down in the F.B.I.S. Field Manual should be adopted by both Services, with the exception that the definition "Expanded Summary" should be abolished.
3. The B.B.C., in anticipation of the approval of the Heads of the respective Services, will put the above into effect as from 17th April 1950.

Style of Summarisation in Transcripts

4. It was recognised that the style used by the B.B.C. and F.B.I.S. in the summarisation of transcripts differed, and that it was desirable to make the procedure of both Services as uniform as possible.
5. It was agreed that this subject should be referred back to Washington prior to the Committee making recommendations on the problem.

Identification of Cyprus Material

6. With reference to paragraph 8 of the record of the third meeting of the F.B.I.S.-B.B.C. Monitoring Service Coordination Committee, arrangements have been effected, as an interim measure, whereby the cabled product of those Cyprus language sections in which unqualified monitors were being retained pending procurement of replacements, are identified by the letter Z.

Use of Greenwich Mean Time

7. The Committee took note that, as from 1st January 1950, G.M.T. was adopted by both Services in all coverage schedules and times of broadcasts quoted on transcriptions and cables. Times given in texts and summaries are as broadcast, and are not adjusted to G.M.T.

Station Headings and Logographs

8. The B.B.C. have, in general, adopted the procedure of naming Station Headings and Logographs by the name of the place in which a broadcast originates as opposed to the name of the place from which the broadcast is transmitted.
9. The specialised aspects of this problem which arise in Israel, Austria, and Germany will require further examination.

Chynne.
C. Wynne. B.B.C. Monitoring Service.

F.B.I.B.

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